

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PC-01 CU-02 AID-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

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P R 241220Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 415

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NDJAMENA 2745

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, CD

SUBJ: GOC PRESIDENT'S DISPLEASURE AT WITHDRAWAL PEACE CORPS
VOLUNTEERS FROM FAYA LARGEAU

REF: NDJAMENA 2723 AND 2600 (NOTAL)

1. PRESIDENT MALLOUM IN OCTOBER 23 MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR LITTLE
RAISED QUESTION OF EMB DECISION RECALL TWO PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS
FROM FAYA LARGEAU. (WITHDRAWAL OTHER VOLUNTEERS FROM NORTHERN
AREAS HAS NOT BEEN DISCUSSED WITH CHADIAN OFFICIALS.) PRESIDENT
STATED HE UNDERSTOOD USG INTEREST IN SECURITY ITS PERSONNEL,
BUT THAT HE BELIEVED DANGER IN FAYA WAS NOT SIGNIFICANT AS LONG
AS PCVS OBEYED INSTRUCTIONS NOT TO LEAVE TOWN PROPER. NO ONE,
PRESIDENT CONTINUED, COULD GUARANTEE 100 PERCENT SAFETY FOR INDI-
VIDUALS ANYWHERE IN CHAD, NOR FOR THAT MATTER IN NEW YORK OR
EUROPE, BUT HE CONSIDERED SECURITY OF PCVS IN FAYA TO BE SATIS-
FACTORY. PRESIDENT OBSERVED THAT FRANCE WITHDRAWING ITS ADVISORS/
COOPERANTS FROM NORTHERN AREAS CHAD, FOR REASONS OF ITS OWN,
AND USG DECISION WITHDRAW PCVS AT SAME TIME HAD UNFORTUNATE POLI-
TICAL OVERTONES. AMBASSADOR AGREED THAT ABSOLUTE SAFETY COULD
NOT BE ASSURED ANYWHERE, YET GIVEN KEEN USG INTEREST IN PERSONAL
SECURITY ITS PERSONNEL AND LIKELIHOOD THAT ANY INCIDENT WOULD
COMPLICATE SIGNIFICANTLY US/CHADIAN RELATIONS,
AMBASSADOR HAD
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DECIDED ON WITHDRAWAL AFTER CONSULTATIONS WITH WASHINGTON.

NONETHELESS, AMBASSADOR CONCLUDED, HE WOULD RE-EXAMINE QUESTION WITH COLLEAGUES DURING WASHINGTON CONSULTATIONS.

2. COMMENT: EMBASSY WILL NOT RAISE QUESTION WITHDRAWAL PCVS NORTHERN CHAD WITH GOC PRIOR RECEIPT INSTRUCTIONS. PRESIDENT MALLOUM'S REFERENCE TO WITHDRAWAL FRENCH ADVISORS IS FIRST OFFICIAL WORD EMB HAS RECEIVED DIRECTLY FROM GOC OR FRENCH OFFICIALS.DWYER

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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